

Appl. No.: 10/706,600
Amdt. dated 05/05/2006.
Reply to Office action of January 5, 2006

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 7-18 are pending. Claim 7 is currently amended and claims 9-18 have been added. In particular, claim 7 has been amended to recite that e represents an integer of 1 to 10; at least one of g and h is not 0; at least one of L, m, and n is not 0; and at least one of t, u, v, x, and y is not 0. These amendments are supported throughout the specification and original claims, and no new matter has been added. Claims 1-6 are canceled herein without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants respectfully request entry of these amendments.

Applicants affirm the election of Group II (claims 7-8) made by Andrew T. Meunier by telephone on December 20, 2006. Applicants also affirm the election of species of Formula (3) made by Andrew T. Meunier on December 20, 2006. Applicants note that consideration of additional species should take place upon the allowance of a generic claim as provided by 37 C.F.R. §1.141.

Claims 7 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by JP 2000-309753 A (JP '753). The examiner has alleged that JP '753 describes compositions that comply with the structural limitations of Formula (3) of claim 7 where either e or f is equal to zero.

In response, claim 7 has been amended to recite that e represents an integer of 1 to 10. JP '753 A does not disclose or suggest a cross-linking agent of Formula (3) wherein e represents an integer of 1 to 10 (i.e., e is not zero), and further fails to teach or suggest cross-linking agents as set forth in Formulas (4)-(8) in amended claim 7. In particular, it is noted that component B-1 and B-2 of the composition of JP '753 does not encompass the cross-linking agents of amended claim 7. Therefore, JP '753 does not disclose or suggest the claimed semiconductor device. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

The Office Action includes a second anticipation rejection on page 4. Though the Office Action cites JP '753 again in this rejection, Applicants believe that the Examiner may have intended for the rejection on page 4 of the Office Action to recite JP 2000-309751 A (JP '751). If this is the case, the examiner has alleged that JP '751 contains much of the same subject matter as JP '753.

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In response, Applicants note that JP '751 also does not disclose or suggest cross-linking agents selected from the group consisting of structure-controlled cyclic or multi-branched oligomers represented by Formulas (3) to (8), as claimed in current claim 7. For example, the B component taught in JP '751 does not encompass compounds represented by Formula (3) of claim 7 wherein e represents an integer of 1 to 10, or any of the remaining cross-linking agents of claim 7. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

Applicants respectfully submit that all the claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested in due course. If any minor informalities need to be addressed, the Examiner is directed to contact the undersigned attorney or Andrew T. Meunier by telephone to facilitate prosecution of this case.

Information Disclosure Statements were filed for the present application on December 20, 2006 and March 7, 2006 (retransmitted on March 8, 2006 to ensure all references were received). Accordingly, it is requested that initialed copy of the Forms 1449 be forwarded to the undersigned with the next communication from the PTO. In order to facilitate review of the references by the Examiner, a copy of the Information Disclosure Statement and the Form 1449 are attached hereto. Copies of the cited references were provided at the times of filing the Information Disclosure Statements, and, therefore, no additional copies of the references are submitted herewith. Applicants will be pleased to provide additional copies of the references upon the Examiner's request if it proves difficult to locate the original references.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

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CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the US Patent and Trademark Office at Fax No. (571) 273-8300 on the date shown below.

Cynthia V. Hall
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5/5/2006
Date